

# OPINIONS AND DECLARATIONS RENDERED BY THE INTER- NATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

*Edited by*

**FRANCIS HEMMING, C.M.G., C.B.E.**

Secretary to the Commission

**VOLUME 1. SECTION F. Part F.6. Pp. 63—72**

## **DIRECTION 93**

Clarification and completion of the entry on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* relating to the generic name *Chorioptes* Gervais & van Beneden, 1859 (Class Arachnida, Order Acarina) made by the Ruling given in *Opinion 104*

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# INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

## COMPOSITION AT THE TIME OF THE ADOPTION OF THE RULING GIVEN IN DIRECTION 93

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### B. The Members of the Commission

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(12th August 1953)

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Massachusetts, U.S.A.*) (4th December 1954)

Professor Enrico TORTONESE (*Museo di Storia Naturale "G. Doria," Genova, Italy*)  
(16th December 1954)

## DIRECTION 93

CLARIFICATION AND COMPLETION OF THE ENTRY  
ON THE "OFFICIAL LIST OF GENERIC NAMES  
IN ZOOLOGY" RELATING TO THE GENERIC  
NAME "CHORIOPTES" GERVAIS & VAN  
BENEDEN, 1859 (CLASS ARACHNIDA,  
ORDER ACARINA) MADE BY  
THE RULING GIVEN IN  
"OPINION" 104

**RULING** :—(1) It is hereby directed that the name *Sarcoptes caprae* be treated as having been first validly published in January 1858 by Delafond (H.M.O.) & Bourguignon (H.M.) in Volume 11 of the Fifth Series of the *Archives générales de Médecine*, Paris.

(2) It is hereby directed that in the entry regarding the generic name *Chorioptes* Gervais & van Beneden, 1859, made on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* by the Ruling given in *Opinion* 104 the following revised particulars regarding the type species of the genus so named be substituted for the entry consisting of the single word "*caprae*" then inscribed on the above *List* :—

*Sarcoptes caprae* Delafond (H.M.O.) & Bourguignon  
(H.M.), (January) 1858

(3) The under-mentioned specific name is hereby placed on the *Official List of Specific Names in Zoology* with the Name No. 1489 :—

*caprae* Delafond (H.M.O.) & Bourguignon (H.M.), (January) 1858, as published in the combination *Sarcoptes caprae* (specific name of type species of *Chorioptes* Gervais & van Beneden, 1859).

## I. THE SUBJECT MATTER OF THE PRESENT “ DIRECTION ”

The present *Direction* forms part of the concluding group of *Directions* embodying decisions clarifying, completing, or correcting, entries made on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* in the period up to the end of 1936 taken by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature in preparation for the publication of the foregoing *List* in book-form. The particular subject dealt with in this *Direction* is the entry relating to the generic name *Chorioptes* Gervais & van Beneden, 1859 (Class Arachnida, Order Acarina) made on the *Official List* by the Ruling given in *Opinion* 104 (1928, *Smithson. misc. Coll.* 73 (No. 5) 25—28). The issues involved in the present case were placed before the Commission by the Secretary in the following paper on 6th October 1957 :—

Proposed clarification and completion of the portion of the entry on the “ Official List of Generic Names in Zoology ” relating to the generic name “ *Chorioptes* ” Gervais & van Beneden, 1859 (Class Arachnida, Order Acarina) made by the Ruling given in “ *Opinion* ” 104 which is concerned with the name of the type species of the above genus

By FRANCIS HEMMING, C.M.G., C.B.E.

(*Secretary to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature*)

The present note is concerned with one limited question connected with the entry on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* relating

to the name *Chorioptes* Gervais & van Beneden, 1859 (Class Arachnida, Order Acarina), doubts regarding which made it necessary to defer this case for further examination when on 11th June 1956 I submitted to the International Commission a paper bearing the Registered No. Z.N.(S.) 1018 containing proposals for the addition to the *Official List of Specific Names in Zoology* of the specific names of the type species of genera belonging to the Class Arachnida and to certain other Classes, the names of which had been placed on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* in the period up to the end of 1936.

2. The name *Chorioptes* Gervais & van Beneden was placed on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* by the Ruling given in 1928 in *Opinion* 104. It was there stated that the type species of this genus was “*caprae*” by original designation.

3. Despite the incomplete and unsatisfactory manner in which the name of the type species of the genus *Chorioptes* was cited at the time when the name of that genus was placed on the *Official List* no difficulty would normally have been experienced in determining the combination in which the name had been originally published, the author by whom the name had been given and the date and place where the name had been published ; for such information, even if not given by the original author of the generic name, can generally be traced from such particulars as are given by that author. The routine investigations carried out by the Office of the Commission in connection with the preparation of the *Official List* for publication in book-form quickly established that the specific name “*caprae*” cited in *Opinion* 104 had been published in the combination *Sarcoptes caprae* and that it had been proposed jointly by Delafond (H.M.O.) & Bourguignon (H.M.). It was as regards the date on which this name was first published and even more as to where it first appeared that difficulties were encountered.

The investigations carried out in this matter showed that the name *Sarcoptes caprae* Delafond & Bourguignon had been published as a new name in three separate papers which appeared very close to one another in time. The three occasions concerned are as follows :—

(a) *Bulletin de l'Académie de Médecine*, Paris 23(4) : 110—126

In this serial the paper by Delafond & Bourguignon was published in full. The name *Sarcoptes caprae* appeared twice, first on page 123 and again on page 125. The specific characters for this taxon were given on the last-named page. This volume contains reports of meetings of the *Académie de Médecine* held between September 1857 and September 1858. The volume is



divided into "numbers" but these do not throw any light on the question as to when any of the papers included in the volume were published. The title page of the volume bears the date "1857—1858".

(b) *Archives générales de Médecine* (5) 11 : 18—48

In this serial also the paper by Delafond & Bourguignon was published in full, the name *Sarcoptes caprae* appearing on pages 29 and 31, the specific diagnosis being given on the later of these pages. The title page of this volume bears the date "1858". The volume was published in parts, the first part, which is that in which the above paper appeared, bearing the date "Janvier 1858".

(c) *Gazette médicale de Paris* (3) 12 : 758

On the page noted above there is an anonymous report of the meeting of the *Académie de Médecine* at which Delafond & Bourguignon presented the paper in which they introduced their new species *Sarcoptes caprae*. That nominal species is mentioned in this anonymous report but the specific diagnosis provided by the authors in their paper is omitted and the observations here published regarding *Sarcoptes caprae* contain not a single diagnostic character for that species. The volume of the *Gaz. méd. Paris* containing the report discussed above, bears on the title page the date "Année 1857", but, as the portion containing the above report is near the end of the volume, that report may well not have appeared until some time in 1858. It is not necessary, however, to pursue this matter further, since even if it could be shown that it was in this report that the name *Sarcoptes caprae* first saw the light, the name so published could not rank for priority as from the *Gaz. méd.*, for (as explained above) it was as a *nomen nudum* only that it appeared in that serial.

5. It will be seen from the particulars given above that the paper containing the name *Sarcoptes caprae* Delafond & Bourguignon was first validly published either in the *Bull. Acad. Méd.*, Paris, or in the *Arch. gén. Méd.*, Paris. In the first of these serials it may have appeared at the end of 1857, but there is no evidence that it did so. If it did not appear in that year, it no doubt appeared sometime in the year 1858. We know, however, that in the *Arch. gén. Méd.*, this paper appeared in 1858 as early as the month of January. Under a decision taken by the Thirteenth International Congress of Zoology, Paris, 1948, a name, the precise date of publication of which is not known, is to be treated for the purposes of the Law of Priority as having been published on the last day of the period in which it is known to have

appeared (1950, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 4 : 223—244), this being the earliest date on which it is definitely established that publication took place. When we apply this rule to the present case, we find that, although in the *Bull. Acad. Méd.*, the name *Sarcoptes caprae* may have been published in 1857, it is not known to have been so published and that the earliest date on which it certainly did appear in that serial was 31st December 1858, the last day of the period in which according to the title page, the volume in question as a whole was published. On the other hand, we know from the legend at the head of the part in which this name was published in the *Arch. gén. Méd.* that publication took place in January 1858. From this evidence we see that under the decision taken in Paris cited above the name *Sarcoptes caprae* Delafond & Bourguignon must be treated for the purposes of zoological nomenclature (a) as having been first published in the *Arch. gén. Méd.*, Paris, and, therefore, (b) as having priority as from January 1858.

6. It is recommended that in the light of the particulars set out above the International Commission should :—

- (1) substitute in the entry regarding the generic name *Chorioptes* Gervais & van Beneden, 1859, made on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* by the Ruling given in *Opinion* 104 the following revised entry relating to the type species of the genus bearing the above name in place of the entry consisting of the single word “*caprae*” then inscribed on the above *List* :—

*Sarcoptes caprae* Delafond (H.M.O.) & Bourguignon (H.M.),  
(January) 1858, *Arch. gén. Méd.*, Paris (5) 11 : 29, 31

- (2) place the under-mentioned specific name on the *Official List of Specific Names in Zoology* :—

*caprae* Delafond (H.M.O.) & Bourguignon (H.M.), (January)  
1858, as published in the combination *Sarcoptes caprae*  
(specific name of type species of *Chorioptes* Gervais &  
van Beneden, 1859).

**2. Registration of the present application :** As soon as it came to notice that the entry relating to the generic name *Chorioptes* Gervais & van Beneden made on the *Official List* by the Ruling

given in *Opinion* 104 was in need of amplification and completion, the problem so involved was allotted the Registered No. Z.N.(S.)1131.

## II. THE DECISION TAKEN BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

**3. Issue of Voting Paper V.P.(O.M.)(57)22 :** On 18th October 1957 a Voting Paper (V.P.(O.M.)(57)22) was issued in which the Members of the Commission were invited to vote either for, or against, "the proposal relating to the name of the type species of the genus *Chorioptes* Gervais & van Beneden, 1859 (Class Arachnida, Order Acarina), as set out in paragraph 6 of the paper bearing the Registered No. Z.N.(S.)1131 [i.e. in the paragraph numbered as above in the paper reproduced in the first paragraph of the present *Direction*] submitted by the Secretary simultaneously with the present Voting Paper".

**4. The Prescribed Voting Period :** As the foregoing Voting Paper was issued under the One-Month Rule, the Prescribed Voting Period closed on 18th November 1957.

**5. Particulars of the Voting on Voting Paper V.P.(O.M.)(57)22 :** At the close of the Prescribed Voting Period, the state of the voting on Voting Paper V.P.(O.M.)(57)22 was as follows :—

(a) *Affirmative Votes had been given by the following twenty-three (23) Commissioners (arranged in the order in which Votes were received) :*

Holthuis ; Mayr ; Bonnet ; Stoll ; Vokes ; Lemche ; Bodenheimer ; Bradley (J.C.) ; Hering ; Hankó ; Prantl ; Riley ; Dymond ; Esaki ; Tortonese ; Boschma ; Hemming ; Mertens ; Cabrera ; Miller ; Kühnelt ; Sylvester-Bradley ; Jaczewski ;



(b) *Negative Votes* :

None ;

(c) *On Leave of Absence, one (1)* :

Key ;

(d) *Voting Papers not returned, one (1)* :

do Amaral.<sup>1</sup>

**6. Declaration of Result of Vote :** On 19th November 1957, Mr. Hemming, Secretary to the International Commission, acting as Returning Officer for the Vote taken on Voting Paper V.P.(O.M.)(57)22, signed a Certificate that the Votes cast were as set out in paragraph 5 above and declaring that the proposal submitted in the foregoing Paper had been duly adopted and that the decision so taken was the decision of the International Commission in the matter aforesaid.

**7. Preparation of the Ruling given in the present " Direction " :** On 14th December 1957 Mr. Hemming prepared the Ruling given in the present *Direction* and at the same time signed a Certificate that the terms of that Ruling were in complete accord with those of the proposal approved by the International Commission in its Vote on Voting Paper V.P.(O.M.)(57)22.

**8. Original References :** The following is the original reference for the name placed on an *Official List* by the Ruling given in the present *Direction* :—

*caprae*, *Sarcoptes*, Delafond (H.M.O.) & Bourguignon (H.M.), (January) 1858, *Arch. gén. Méd.*, Paris (5) 11 : 29, 31

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<sup>1</sup> After the close of the Prescribed Voting Period a late affirmative vote was received from Commissioner do Amaral.

**9. Family-Group-Name Aspect :** The family-group-name aspect of the present case has been deferred, pending its examination in connection with the preparation for the consideration of the Commission of comprehensive proposals regarding family-group-name problems involved in connection with the entries relating to the names of other genera of the Class Arachnida made on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* in the period up to the end of 1936.

**10.** The prescribed procedures were duly complied with by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature in dealing with the present case, and the present *Direction* is accordingly hereby rendered in the name of the said International Commission by the under-signed Francis Hemming, Secretary to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, in virtue of all and every the powers conferred upon him in that behalf.

**11.** The present *Direction* shall be known as *Direction Ninety-Three (93)* of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature.

DONE in London, this Fourteenth day of December, Nineteen Hundred and Fifty-Seven.

*Secretary to the International Commission  
on Zoological Nomenclature*

**FRANCIS HEMMING**